

Medium	20-24
Medium/High	25-29
High	30 or greater

The overall values for Community Assessment (Table 13) show subdivisions ranging from 22 to 25. The subdivision overall value is assigned a fire risk by comparing the value to the Fire Rating Scale.

### **Overall Risk Value Summary**

The overall risk values (Table 13) show a strong correlation between the three highest fire risk subdivisions (M.L. Danielson, South Fork Boise River, and Silver Brush) and the overall values for the Fire/Structure Hazard Assessment.

## **5.0 MITIGATION**

This section discusses fuels mitigation and needs and associated costs for Camas County Fire department located at Fairfield and the West Magic Fire Department. The environmental effects, restoration guidelines, and public education programs are included under one section and apply to both fire departments within Camas County. Table 25 includes a Mitigation Summary for Camas County – Fairfield Fire Department. The Potential Problems – Risks and Recommended Mitigation are identified based on field assessments and personal interviews with fire chiefs, homeowners, BLM and Sawtooth National Forest Service personnel.

Fuels Mitigation – Hazardous fuel buildup resulting in wildland fires represent the primary risk to homeowners, businesses, and state and federal facilities located outside of city limits. Fuel break locations are identified in this section based on recommendations provided by each fire chief, input from county commissioners and BLM, assessments of subdivisions and additions determined to be of importance and, review of other Wildand Fire Hazard Mitigations Plans for Camas County. The size of fuel breaks required and associated costs to construct these fuel breaks will vary, depending on hazardous fuels present, distance to transport construction equipment, and actual dimensions of fuel break.

Needs and Associated Costs – This section includes tables using information obtained directly from each fire chief addressing needs and associated costs for their department or district. Costs for training and certification programs are forthcoming

Environmental Effects – This section includes the environmental effects resulting from fuel break construction, mowing, disking, or other land disturbance and from the installation of dry hydrant.

Fire Prevention Programs - Public Education – This section introduces Camas County residents to FIREWISE and Red Zone, both excellent fire prevention programs, offers

homeowners a checklist to avoid wildfire damage and, presents relevant public education web sites. It is noteworthy to mention that the 2000 International Fire Code, Uniform Building Code, and International Building Code apply to Camas County residents. Subdivision review and building permit procedures should be sent to the responsible fire protection entities for review and comment. The Building Department, Zoning Administration, and the Fire departments should meet to discuss the current system of building permit review, identify any problems that exist and implement solutions.

### **Fuels Mitigation for Camas County Fire department**

Fuel breaks are recommended for nearly all subdivisions and additions north of Fairfield (Figure 5). Figures 6, 7, 8, and 9 show homes within subdivisions assessed and considered high priority. These fuel breaks will be constructed along roads, in most cases, and generally within heavy sagebrush-grassland fuel types.

#### Helicopter Dip Sites

Sawtooth National Forest proposes two helicopter dip sites for the north and south ends of the South Fork of the Boise River area (Figure 5).

#### Dry Hydrants

Proposed for a site ~12 miles north of Fairfield along North Soldier Creek, at the inlet to Mormon Reservoir south of Fairfield and adjacent to West Shore Acres subdivision.

#### Upgrade Bridges and culverts

State of Idaho needs to inspect all bridges with a 20 foot span or greater to support the weight of the heaviest fire-fighting apparatus used within the fire district (Figure 13, page 28, Table 14, page 20 and Table 25, page 36).

#### Sawtooth National Forest (SNF)

The SNF, operating within the policies and guidelines of the SNF Forest Management Plan, the National Fire Plan, and the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, has completed fuels reduction projects in the Silver Brush and Round Valley Subdivision areas in the recent past. (personal communication, SNF, 2004). In 1997, '98, and '99 prescribed fire was used to reduce the heavy sagebrush fuel loads in both areas. Sagebrush mowing was also completed in areas within the Sampson, Williams, and Lawrence Creek drainages—above and around the subdivisions-- to help reduce the sagebrush fuel load. These treatments work for only short periods of time in the grass and sage habitat and any fuel breaks constructed in these areas will have to be regularly maintained to be effective. In addition, SNF proposes wildland hazardous fuels reduction projects in the following areas: (1) The Soldier Creek area located on federal lands and include the Soldier Mountain Ski area, and some federal lands generally west, south and east of this recreation facility, (2) Big Smoky Summer Homes (forest recreational site of 12 building lots on federal land with 10 private cabin structures), and (3) Upper South Fork Boise

River. These are federal lands adjacent to private lands generally north of Fleck Summit and south of Bear Creek trailhead. The SNF is open to consider suggested fuels reduction projects on forest.

**Table 14. Fairfield Fire Department Existing Needs: Personnel and Capital Expenses**

Needs	Costs
Full-time fire chief	\$20-50,000.00 per year
Command vehicle	50,000.00
Firefighting Vehicle Acquisition Programs (see Table 25, Mitigation Summary, p. 36)	TBD
Modifications to Fire Stations and Facilities (see Table 25, Mitigation Summary, p. 36)	TBD
New Fire Stations (3) – Willow Creek, Corral, and Soldier Mountain	1,000,000
Class A Pumper Trucks (3)	500,000
Brush Trucks (3)	300,000
Rescue Truck	140,000
Tenders (3)	300,000
Exhaust Venting System	TBD
Turnouts (10 – Personal Protective Equipment)	15,000
SCBA (10)	40,000
Sprinkler Systems	TBD
Bridge inspections	TBD

**Table 15. Fairfield Fire Department Existing Needs: Training and Certification**

Needs	Costs
Operations and firefighter safety programs (see Table 25, Mitigation Summary, p. 36)	TBD
Distance Learning Opportunities	TBD
Certified Fire Fighter Training	TBD
Certified Instructor Training	TBD
Certified Arson/Fire Investigation Training	TBD
Certified EMS Training	TBD

**Table 16. Fairfield Fire Department Existing Needs: Communication**

Needs	Costs
New Radios	25,000
Additional Repeaters	TBD
Dispatch Fire Training	TBD
Established Mutual Aid Agreements with all parties	TBD

**Table 17. Fairfield Fire Department Existing Needs: Prevention and Inspection**

Needs	Costs
Computerized Records	TBD
Training Grants	TBD
Establish and Improve City Code Enforcement	TBD

**Table 18. Fairfield Fire Department Existing Needs: Public Education**

Needs	Costs
Complete FIREWISE Program	100,000
Code Enforcement and Inspector Certification	TBD
Details on Current Public Education and Awareness	TBD

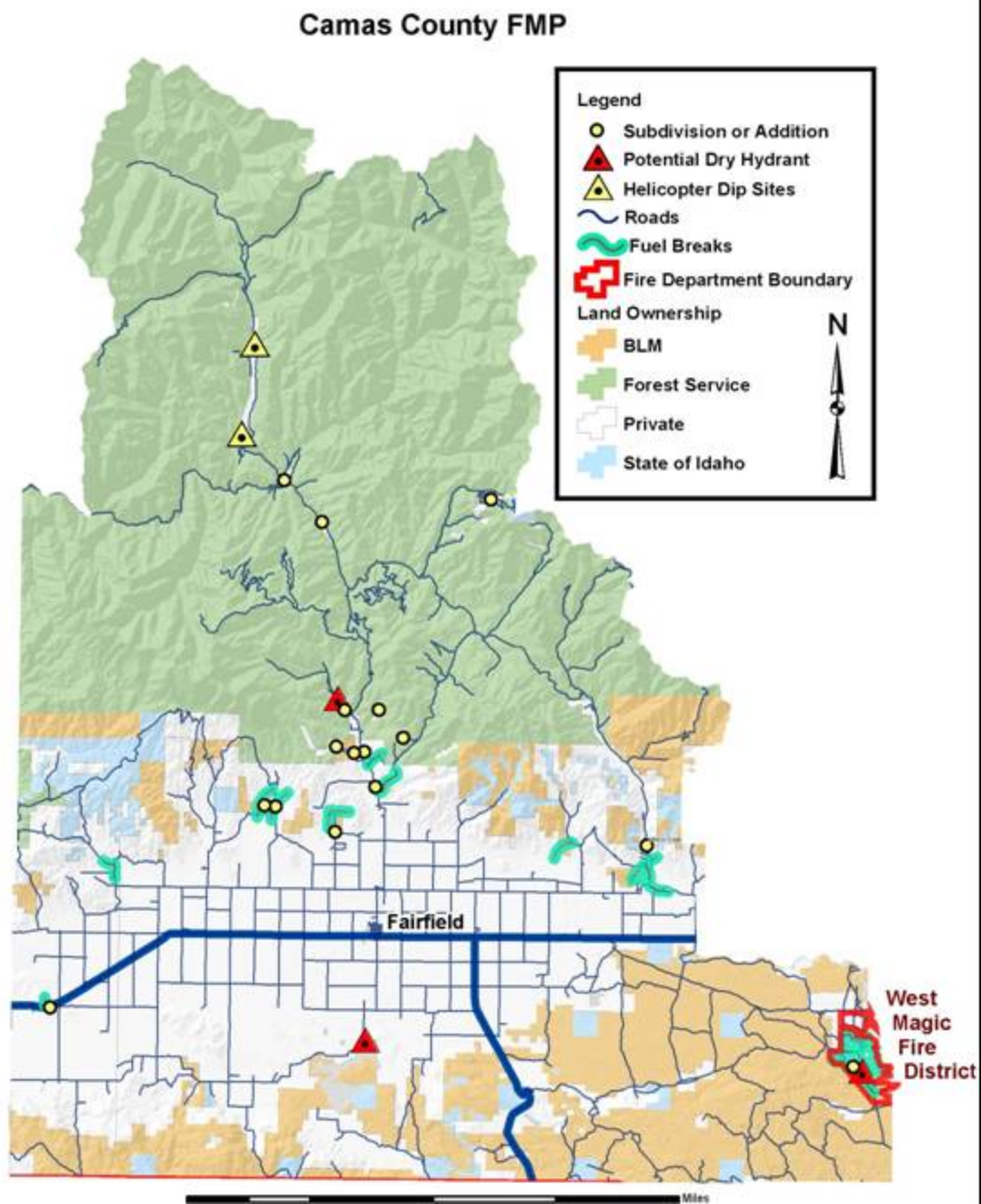


Figure 5. Camas County Fire departments showing proposed locations of helicopter dip sites, dry hydrants, and fuel breaks.



Figure 6. M. L. Danielson subdivision showing heavy sagebrush fuels and limited survivable space.





**Figure 7. Willow Creek Subdivision showing heavy sagebrush fuels and no survivable space.**



**Figure 8. Soldier Mountain Ranch located on slope with heavy sagebrush fuel and limited survivable space.**



**Figure 9. Silver Brush Subdivision showing homes located on slopes and limited survivable space.**

### **Fuels Mitigation for West Magic Fire Department**

Numerous fuel breaks are recommended within West Magic Fire Department (Figure 10 – Magic City photos), Magic Resort, and adjacent areas. The areas recommended as high priority for fuel breaks are shown in Figures 11 and 12.

The construction of a dry hydrant is recommended west of Myrtle Point (Figure 10).

**Table 19. West Magic Fire Department Existing Needs: Personnel and Capital Expenses**

<b>Needs</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Full-time fire chief	\$20-50,000.00 per year
Firefighting Vehicle Acquisition Programs (see Table 25, Mitigation Summary, p. 36)	70,000.00
Modifications to Fire Stations and Facilities (see Table 25, Mitigation Summary, p. 36)	100,000.00
Ten (10) 10,000 gallon cisterns instead of hydrants	100,000
Equipment for 1978 Pumper (hoses, ladders, nozzles and tools)	5,000
Three (3) 4000 gallon port-a-tank	18,000
3 bay 50 x 50 building	50,000

**Table 20. West Magic Fire Department Existing Needs: Training and Certification**

<b>Needs</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Operations and firefighter safety programs (see Table 25, Mitigation Summary, p. 36)	15,000.00
Firefighter training videos	3,800.00
Instructor training	1,810.00
EMS training	10,000.00
Inspection Training	10,000.00

**Table 21. West Magic Fire Department Existing Needs: Communication**

<b>Needs</b>	<b>Costs</b>
(10) Radios	25,000.00

**Table 22. West Magic Fire Department Existing Needs: Prevention and Inspection**

Needs	Costs
Computerized Records	4,500.00
Training Grants	5,000.00

**Table 23. West Magic Fire Department Existing Needs: Pubic Education**

Needs	Costs
Complete Firewise Programs	100,000



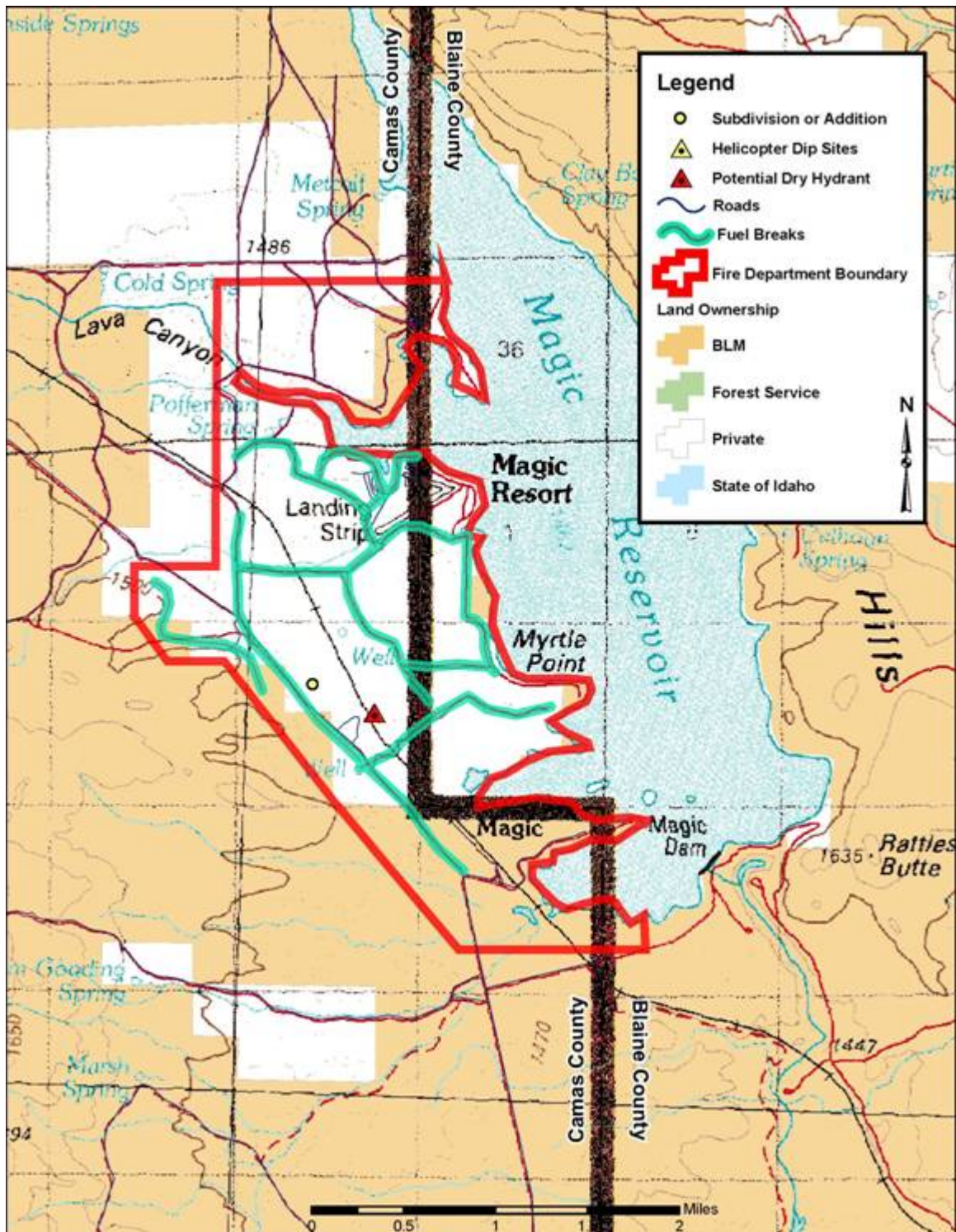


Figure 10. West Magic Valley Fire department showing proposed locations for fuel breaks and a dry hydrant.



**Figure 11. Heavy fuel loads and no survivable space shown at homes near Magic City.**



**Figure 12. Heavy fuels shown are most common throughout the Magic City area.**





Figure 13. Five ton weight limit “restricted” bridge over Camas Creek.

## Environmental Effects

### Weed Establishment

Mowing, disking, or other surface disturbance used to or resulting from the construction of fuel breaks could result in the additional spread of noxious weeds and/or invasive annual weeds or exotic grasses. Therefore; the following weed mitigation is recommended.

Confirmed sightings of the following noxious weeds have been identified in Camas County (Prather et al. 2002): Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*), leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*) and spotted knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*). Some species, such as halogeton (*Halogeton glomeratis*), and downy brome (cheatgrass) (*Bromus tectorum*), are not listed as noxious but do impact the environment. Cheatgrass has increased the extent and frequency of wildland fires in the Great Basin and Upper Columbia River Basin with significant impacts in natural and fiscal resources (Billings 1994).

### **Before Construction of Fuel Breaks, Mowing, Disking or Other Land Disturbance**

Survey and map invasive and noxious weeds occurring on site scheduled for construction.

- ◆ Determine infestation size and control weeds with appropriate methods (Table XX). Use a State-certified pesticide applicator for specific recommendations and chemical treatment.
- ◆ Train equipment operator on weed issues prior to start date. This training should